SPR-2

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Enclosure with
S
D-6, Insect Control,
Whitman, 3-26-'12

SS
Whitman - Studies
Insect Infestation

February 24, 1912.

District Forester,

Portland, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of January 29, concerning information called for by Mr. Clapp's letter of January 24:

The insect control project on and adjacent to this Forest during the spring of 1911 in cooperation with the Bureau of Entomology proceeded about as follows:

The Bureau was represented by Professor H. E. Burke in charge, W. D. Edmonston and W. B. Turner. At the beginning of active field work Mr. Edmonston was placed in charge in the field.

Just what percent of their time was spent I the field I am unable to say, although it is my opinion that Edmonston spent the greater part of his time in the field. I met him every few days and knew in a general way about where he was. Concerning the movements of Professor Burke and Mr. Turner I am not so familiar, since their headquarters was in Baker, while Mr. Edmonston made Sumpter his home.

The Service was represented by Forest Ranger Ephraim Barnes, in charge in the field.

The representative of the Bureau of Entomology selected the area to be worked, instructed the cruisers in selecting and marking the trees to be cut and the method of treatment. These cruisers worked directly under the supervision of Mr. Edmonston.

The Forest Service had charge of and planned all work in treating timber marked by the cruisers, fallowing the methods of treatment outlined by the Bureau, hiring men, furnishing equipment and supplies, transporting men, tools and supplies and moving camps from place to place.

There area great many difficulties in handling a project of this kind, especially since a large number of men was involved and the time for completing the work was short. No doubt all the money was not spent to the best advantage and it is my opinion that members of the Bureau were rather liberal in the use of automobiles and in some cases it seemed that cruisers were moved from one camp to another oftener than was necessary. However, I am unable to give details, my knowledge being largely from hearsay.

Detailed information concerning the use of automobiles is not available here, as the accounts did not pass through my office and my knowledge of happenings in the field are largely hearsay,

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as I was able to spend only a small amount of time in the field in connection with the insect control work, my time being principally taken up with general administration.

The experience gained in this work confirms me in the belief that no project should be undertaken under a double-headed management, as it seems almost impossible to secure efficient and economical administration in this manner.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Henry Ireland,

Forest Supervisor.

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Enclosure with
S
D-6, Insect Control,
Whitman, 3-26-'12

# REPORT

# ON

# INSECT INFESTATION CONTROL WORK

# CONDUCTED BY

# THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY

# AND THE FOREST SERVICE

# WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST

# SPRING OF 1911

**BY**

**EPHRAIM BARNES**

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Enclosure with
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D-6, Insect Control,
Whitman,
3-26-'12

Vouchers paid during April - May, 1911.

## Automobile Hire

## In Connection With Pine Bark Beetle Study

| Voucher Number | Date Paid | Amount | Date Expense Incurred | Incurred by | Mileage | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7861 | 5/8 | $1.50 | 4/30 | Wm. D. Edmonston | 8 | Includes Cruiser C. E. Goodpasture. |
| 7977 | 5/11 | $20.00 | 5/16 | H. E. Burke | 50 | Includes Edmonston and Cruisers Larson, Long and Sergent. |
| 7978 | 5/11 | $22.30 | 5/1 | H. E. Burke | 64 | Includes Edmonston and Cruiser Goodpasture. |
| 7980 | 5/11 | $18.50 | 4/26 | Wm. B. Turner | 53 | Baker to Dutch Creek Camp and return. |
| 8055 | 5/16 | $18.00 | 5/9 | Wm. D. Edmonston | ? | Includes Cruiser Sergent. Travel from Baker to Camp #2, (head of Pine Creek). |
| 8100 | 5/19 | $14.00 | 4/17 | H. E. Burke | 36 | Includes Hopkins, Cecil & Edmonston. |
| 8100 | 5/19 | $14.00 | 4/28 | H. E. Burke | 36 | Includes Turner and Cruiser Shelton. |
| 8102 | 5/19 | $15.00 | 4/14 | Wm. B. Turner | 46 | Baker to Pine Creek Camp and Muddy Creek Camp. |
| 8103 | 5/19 | $25.00 | 5/9 | Wm. B. Turner | 76 | Baker to Sumpter and vicinity, calling on timberland owners. |
| 8227 | 5/26 | $18.50 | 5/21 | H. E. Burke | 50 | Includes Edmonston and Turner. |
| 8228 | 5/26 | $12.25 | 5/26 | W. D. Edmonston | 40 | Includes Burke and Turner. |
| 8229 | 5/26 | $23.50 | 4/22 | Wm. B. Turner | 70 | Includes Agent of Baker Forest Protective Association. |
| | | $202.55 | | | | |
| 8536 | 6/9 | $27.60 | 6/9 | H. E. Burke | 72 | Includes Agent Turner - Cruisers, Miller, Thomas and Farnum. |
| 8537 | 6/9 | $13.00 | 5/24 | H. E. Burke | 36 | To Marble Creek Camp. Edmonston from Baker to Marble Creek Camp. Cruiser Larsen to camp and self to Baker. |
| 8539 | 6/9 | $28.00 | 5/27 | Wm. D. Edmonston | 80 | Includes Burke from Baker to Cold Springs, then to Sumpter. Burke from Sumpter to Baker. |
| 8540 | 6/9 | $26.00 | 5/25 | Wm. B. Turner | 75 | To North Powder Camp. Cruiser Sullivan to Baker. To Lockhart and return. |

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| Voucher Number | Date Paid | Amount | Date Expense Incurred | Incurred by | Mileage | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8926 | 6/23 | $14.00 | 6/16 | H. E. Burke | 38 | Includes Ranger Barnes from Baker to Cold Springs Camp. Return of Edmonston and cruisers Thomas and Farnum to Lockhart. |
| 8927 | 6/23 | $9.80 | 6/17 | H. E. Burke | 28 | Includes Expert Edmonston from Baker to Salem Creek Camp and return. |
| 8928 | 6/23 | $20.00 | 6/11-6/14 | Wm. B. Turner | 50 | From Bend to Wetweather Springs and return. From Bend to ranch of J. E. Ryan and side trips. |
| 8977 | 6/26 | $34.00 | 6/16 | Wm. B. Turner | 70 | To Bend, Athers, Township 20, Range 12, and return to Bend. |
| 9078 | 6/30 | $20.00 | 6/25 | Wm. D. Edmonston | 60 | Includes Burke and Turner from Baker to Cold Springs camp. Burke and Turner, and Cruisers Mills and Farnum from Lockhart to Baker. |
| | | $199.40 | | | 509 | |
| | | | | | | Vouchers paid during July, 1911 |
| 176 | 7/8 | $22.50 | 6/4 | H. E. Burke | | |
| 179 | 7/8 | $17.50 | 5/5 | H. E. Burke | | |
| | | | | | | (Editor's Note: The total $199.40 is incorrect. The correct total is $192.40.) |

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D-6, Insect Control,
Whitman, 3-26-'12

# Report On

# INSECT INFESTATION CONTROL WORK

# Conducted by

# THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY and THE FOREST SERVICE

This report covers in detail the manner in which the insect control work was conducted on and adjacent to the Whitman National Forest during the spring of 1911.

The work was directed and managed by the Bureau of Entomology in cooperation with the Forest Service, and also to a small degree by private owners; operations beginning April 5 and ending June 30, 1911.

The Bureau of Entomology directed the technical work of insect control, the method of selecting and treating the trees; and was represented by H. E. Burke in charge with headquarters at Baker, Oregon. W. D. Edmonston was in charge in the field to give technical advice as to methods of conducting the work, with headquarters at Sumpter, Oregon. W. B. Turner was detailed by the Bureau to handle the cooperative work with individual and organized timber owners, and had his headquarters at Baker, Oregon.

The Forest Service was represented by Supervisor Henry Ireland who had general charge, while I had charge in the field, with headquarters at Sumpter, Oregon. Mr. Ireland and I were responsible for the organization of the crews, establishing and handling of camps, and the actual treating of trees. The area, location, number of trees treated, and cost of work on this project are given in my report of July 24, 1911.

I had nothing to do with the preliminary cruising prior to this work but I believe most of it was done by Forest Ranger R. E. Smith, and a portion by Forest Assistant B. T. Harvey; and that personal investigations made by the Bureau's agents were quite limited.

The Bureau's men seemed to have no definite plan of procedure for the control work and action seemed to be generally taken upon suggestions from Mr. Ireland or myself. Prior to and during the time of this work, I believe all members of the Service gave the Bureau all the information possible in regard to the local conditions, infested areas, etc.

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It was agreed by the Bureau's agents that two camps should be established in locations suggested by Mr. Ireland and myself. On April 5 one camp was established on Deer Creek in Section 30, T. 8S., R. 38 E. These two camps were employing about twenty-five men, and were established in characteristic infestation and mainly used as a basis for special instructions to men who took charge of the different divisions. Two foremen were hired by the Service and put in charge of these camps.

On April 5, I had the foreman of Camp 1, on Deer Creek, (Mr. A. R. Robertson) sign up for property, etc. He was instructed by me to assist the crews in locating infested timber marked by cruisers, direct the crews in the right manner of cutting, assign the men into cutting crews, keep time of all men in camp being paid by the Service, order supplies for camp, and instruct the men to keep the camp in a sanitary condition, etc. W. D. Edmonston was with me and when I finished giving these instructions to the foreman he immediately spoke up, saying to Robertson that if he was to be time-keeper, order supplies, keep record of tools, etc., he would not have any time to run over the hills. Evidently MR. Robertson must have taken Edmonston at his work for on my trips from other camps to this one I always found Mr. Robertson in camp, doing nothing. I understood by information from some men in camp that Edmonston told Robertson that he was not supposed to get out and run over the hills. On April 20, I informed Robertson that he would not be foreman any longer but could go out with one of the cutting crews as a laborer, which he did for one day and resigned April 21. He seemed to be under the impression that I had no authority. Naturally the work would be hindered to some extent when a foreman received information which lead him to believe that he was not required to leave camp but to keep time, order supplies, be flunky for the cook, etc.

As far as possible the work, both on National Forest lands and private holdings, was done absolutely in accordance with the recommendations of the Bureau of Entomology. However, the pilings of the limbs and tops which began about May 1, met with serious objection by the Bureau.

The methods of treating infested trees were as follows: First the trees were felled and the bark peeled from the infested portions and burned, while the trees, limbs and tops were left on the ground. When it was decided to commence work in the lodgepole pine, experience proved that it was slow expensive work to peel and therefore practically all infested lodgepole pine trees cut were completely burned with the brush.

We were instructed by the Bureau to only peel the bark from the infested portion of the tree when working in yellow pine timber, and this plan was followed until instructions were received from the Forester to the effect that on National Forest lands the tops should be lopped and the brush piled.

The infested bark of yellow pine was not burned for the reason that the Bureau believed that to immediately burn the bark would destroy the beneficial bugs or enemies of the insects and this seemed to be the case. However, on National Forest land the tops were lopped and the brush piled but not burned except in a very few instances.

The trees, tops and brush from yellow pine timber cut outside the National Forest were left on the ground, a fire menace, and this action was greatly criticized by the public since purchasers of timber for cordwood in the vicinity of the control work were compelled to properly pile the brush.

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The representatives of the Bureau of Entomology had asked to hire, and did hire, some very poor men. The practice of hiring and retaining men who could not do the work naturally had a tendency to create discontent among some of the laborers. I will admit that in handling a project of this kind it is sometimes difficult to secure good men on short notice.

Mr. W. B. Turner recommended and sent by MR. W. D. Edmonston on April 11 from Baker to Camp 2 on Anthony Creek a Mr. H. H. Farnum to work on cruising. After dinner o this date Edmonston, a Mr. Sargent, myself, and this Mr. Farnum left camp for the cutting crew. We waited on this man some little time for the first two hundred yards, but finally discovered that he was not with us. Mr. Edmonston sent Cruiser Sargent back, who found Farnum lost in open yellow pine timber not more than 400 yards from camp.

The Bureau's agents wished to have Farnum go with a cutting crew, so on April 12 the foreman, Mr. Zipperer, put Farnum with a cutting crew which left camp for their work at 7:30 A.M. The distance to work was about one and a half miles and Farnum reached there at 10:20 A.M., following in the crew's tracks over a light skift of snow. He delayed one of the men some little time who at first waited for him. The foreman said he would not have the man so I informed Edmonston, who was there and saw Farnum arrive, that the man could not do any of the work and he should return to camp as to have a man not working as Farnum was doing would cause dissatisfaction among the others. That afternoon Messrs. Burke and Edmonston set Farnum to peeling a loose-bark yellow pine tree that had been cut down at camp. The afternoon was spent by him at this work which was very easy. The Bureau was well aware that Mr. Farnum could not do a fair day's work but they always wanted him to have another chance.

A few days later Farnum was shifted to a new camp in charge of Earl Rankin and on May 5, Rankin stated that Farnum had been tried since April 11, that his work was very unsatisfactory from start to finish, and that he could not make good at any kind of work. On May 6, I met Edmonston who said that he was on his way to place Farnum on some special work as Turner was going to use him in connection with special investigations and dealing with private owners. Therefore, after this time, Mr. Farnum was still on the payroll but working entirely under the supervision of the Bureau.

As far as I know, practically all negotiations and matters pertaining to the cooperative movements in the field with private owners were done by the Bureau.

At the beginning of the work, the Bureau had at camp 2 on Anthony Creek two cruisers paid by private owners who were put in charge of the cruisers paid by the Government, and when Mr. Edmonston and I arrived at this camp we found quite a number of trees marked and cut that were not infested, the insects having emerged nearly a year prior. Our foremen were given instructions to cut and peel every tree that was marked, and Mr. Henry Ireland and I were instructed by Mr. Edmonston on May 10 that no infested trees should be marked by anyone except a cruiser. In order to keep the cutting crews working some of our foremen were compelled to mark infested trees. April 25, 26, and 27, in Section 7, Tp. 7 S., R. 38 E., there were 36 infested trees cut and treated which were marked by cruisers. Also, our men cut an additional 115 trees in this same section that were heavily infested.

In a clump of 30 infested trees on the above area only two trees had been marked by the cruisers when the cutting crews reached it. The Bureau's agents were not entirely to blame for this oversight since I believe their cruisers had been thoroughly instructed by MR. Edmonston as to the manner in which all infested trees should be marked. The above information was given to me by Joe Zipperer, the foreman, and Harley Wolford, a laborer of camp 2.

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Upon my arrival May 5, at camp 5 on Muddy creek, the foreman asked me who the Mr. Larson was who was cruising for camps 2 and 5. He said that Larson felt very smart giving instructions to all the men, including himself, telling him that he could go out with a cutting crew and stay there. This man Larson was supposed to be a cruiser and as far as I could find out had been recommended and hired by the Forest Protective Association and then turned over to the Bureau. It later developed that the Forest Service had to pay him.

Larson was very anxious to make a trip to Baker from camp 2 and on the morning of May 4 the foreman allowed him to take a team from one of the farmers nearby and go to Baker for a few supplies, instructing him to be sure and return the same way. He was accompanied by Harley Wolford, (one of the laborers) who was going in to get medical treatment.

Wolford stated that upon their arrival in Baker at 11 A.M., Larson left work at the meat market that when he (Larson) sent in an order for meat they should always send out the very best cuts such as hind-quarters, loin, etc., and then immediately began drinking. Wolford stated that he soon lost track of Larson and did not see him till 4 P.M., at which time the latter was quite full and he informed Wolford that it was most too late to return to camp that day and also that he wanted to see some of the Bureau's men.

On April 5 Wolford failed to find Larson and therefore returned to camp with the team, wagon and supplies, leaving Larson in Baker. It was not until May 6 that Larson was taken back to a camp and on this day I met Messrs. Burke and Edmonston together with Sargent and Larson, in an auto on their way to camp 5 on Muddy Creek. The auto was pulled at one side of the road and stopped. Larson stepped out, staggering some and slobbering at the mouth offered me a drink, and then began to object to the poor cooking and having to wait so long for meals. I informed him that if he came in at regular quitting time he would not have to wait so long for his meals.

Edmonston then delivered two letters to me from the Supervisor addressed to Zipperer and Rankin, the contents of which were about as follows: Hereafter, all tops and limbs from trees cut on National Forest land in connection with this work must be lopped and piled by order of the Forester. Edmonston asked me what I was going to do about it and when I told him that we would follow instructions contained in the letters he said that he would have nothing to do with it whatever and that if that kind of work was to begin they would stop everything.

It was almost impossible under the cooperative plan to secure good results in this work. There were many slight misunderstandings. For instance, it was agreed between the Supervisor, Mr. Edmonston and myself that a Mr. Jim Ashby should be put in charge of camp 4 which was being established on Union Creek. Therefore, on April 24, I took a wagon load of men, provisions and tools to this camp, turned over the property to Ashby and put him in charge. Upon my return I met Edmonston who had just visited camp 1 and was headed for camp 4 on Union Creek, taking with him a man whom he had notified was to be foreman of the camp. Ashby was foreman as I had planned and Edmonston's man continued cruising.

Throughout the progress of this work new camps were established by the Service from time to time as soon as sufficient men were educated to the work and the weather conditions would permit.

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## PRIVATE OWNERS.

It seems that the interest which had been aroused among private owners prior to the beginning of this work immediately died out when the work was actually started by the Service, due probably to the fact that the association and private owners would be compelled to furnish more funds.

I believe that before cooperation will be a success that private owners and associations must be required to deposit the necessary money and these funds handled entirely by the Forest Service.

While I was in one camp on June 11, two cruisers continued to mark trees after they had already marked a sufficient number to last the camp until the operations were to be stopped June 30.

These incidents which have been cited are all either directly or indirectly the result of an uncertain division of authority. There was no well defined agreement as to just what the Bureau of Entomology's representatives should do and just what should be done by the Forest Service. In a general way it was understood that the former should directly supervise the men who selected and marked trees for cutting and the latter look after all other details of the control operations. There was however, much overlapping of authority on both sides; Mr. Edmonston frequently talked with camp foremen and laborers, giving them instructions and telling them what to do. Sometimes this conflicted with previous instructions, but even when it did not it left an impression with the men that there was no one person authorized to act. As a result little misunderstandings arose and foremen were at a loss to know whose instructions to follow. It is needless to point out the weaknesses of such a plan of organization. Not only was there overlapping of authority in this regard, but also in the management of cruisers. It was often inconvenient to wait until Mr. Edmonston could personally direct all the work of these men and in one or two cases I was forced to give instructions regarding the marking of infested trees or else see the control crews remain idle for lack of something to do.

Much of the misunderstanding which arose on account of this uncertain arrangement was not a reflection upon Mr. Edmonston but rather an inevitable result of a division or lack of authority. Taken as a whole however, it is my opinion that had not the Forest Service taken the initiative in many ways and sometimes perhaps overstepped their part of the work, the efficiency of the work would have been decreased and as large a territory could not have been covered.

It can plainly be seen however that the petty little incidents that were continually arising during the progress of this work will always occur on any large project of this kind when handled under a double-headed management, as this one was. Therefore, from past experience it would not seem to be sound business to undertake work of this nature on a large scale at any future time.

Respectfully submitted,

Ephraim Barnes

Deputy Supervisor.